

Hawaii Navy News



Volume 26 Issue 8

Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

March 2, 2001

In Brief

Tax Center 2001 relocated

The Tax Center has moved to the Fleet and Family Support Center, Bldg. 1746, Room 104, 820 Willamette Street on Pearl Harbor Naval Station.

The Tax Center provides free tax preparation for active duty military, their dependents, and retirees.

The hours of operation are Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (walk-ins are taken on a space available basis and appointments can be made for Monday-Thursday) and Saturday 8 a.m. to noon (walk-in only). To schedule an appointment call 473-4222, ext. 261.

The center's schedule and hours of operation will remain the same until it closes April 16.

For further information, contact the tax officer, Lt. Matthew B. Kurek, at 473-5982, ext. 321 or LN1 William K. Hickok, at ext. 318.

Barbers Point Commissary

The Barbers Point Commissary has new store hours to better serve the community.

Sun/Mon	Closed
Tue/Wed/Thu	11 - 7 p.m.
Wednesday	11 - 7 p.m.
Thursday	11 - 7 p.m.
Fri/Sat	10 - 6 p.m.

The commissary is closed on Tuesdays following a federal holiday Monday. For more information, checkout www.commissaries.com.

Galley to close for exams

The Silver Dolphin Bistro Galley will be closed for breakfast on March 6 and March 13 to accommodate the E-5 and E-6 Navy-wide advancement exams.

The Silver Dolphin Bistro will reopen for lunch on March 6 and 13 at 11 a.m.

The Diosdado Rome Galley will be open for breakfast from 5:45 to 7:30 a.m.

Inside



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NMCRS kicks off fund drive



J03 Brenda M. Diggs photo

Left to right: Paul H. Belanger, NMCRS executive director; Lt. Jeffery Lopes, COMPATRECONFORPAC; Lt. Jose Perez, MIDPAC; Frank Ilderton, Jr., NEX operations manager; Capt. Chris Fitzhugh, USMC; Capt. Chris Knaggs, FISC commanding officer; Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway Jr., Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific; MSC(SW) Victorio Santiago, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor and Lt. Cmdr. Ozzie Guevara, fund drive coordinator, celebrated the beginning of the annual Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society fund drive Feb. 21 at Sharkey Theater. The fund drive runs March 5 through April 6.

By J03 Brenda M. Diggs
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Representatives from commands around Pearl Harbor celebrated the beginning of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society's annual fund

drive for 2001 last Friday morning at Sharkey Theater.

The representatives gathered in the theater to receive tips on how to get Sailors involved in the fund drive, which runs March 5 to April 6. This year's theme is "Proudly

Showing Our Colors Since 1904." "NMCRS' principal source of income is from donations," said Navy Regional Fund Drive Coordinator. Lt. Cmdr. Ozzie Guevara of Fleet Industrial Supply Center. "Without the contributions made by our

Sailors and Marines during the annual fund drive, help would not be available when it was really needed by our shipmates. This is our opportunity to help our own!"

▼ See NMCRS, A-2

Bus service continues to Iroquois Point housing

By Karen S. Spangler
NAVY REGION HAWAII

Public bus service to Iroquois Point housing residents will continue with no interruption in service.

The city and county Department of Transportation are currently working to ensure that there will not be a break in bus services to Iroquois Point housing residents during the transition of routes. The department may also realign bus schedules.

Effective March 4, the Cormorant Avenue gate will be open daily between 5 a.m. and 7 p.m. to allow for continued bus service. Re-opening

the gate will facilitate bus service by shortening the bus route.

Pleas and petitions presented by housing residents at a recent Ewa Beach Neighborhood Board meeting precipitated a second look at the feasibility of opening the back gate of the Iroquois Point neighborhood.

The decision to re-open the back gate was the result of close coordination of efforts between Commander, Navy Region Hawaii; Commanding Officer, Naval Magazine, Pearl Harbor; and the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Transportation Services.

In reviewing the matter, Navy officials addressed possible security issues and considered the concerns and of residents who rely on the bus for transportation to work and to school.

Navy officials concluded that keeping the gate open during daylight hours would satisfy the necessary requirements to continue bus service.

The gate would be closed during evening hours when police statistics have shown that most incidents of crime are reported.

The city of Honolulu originally planned to discontinue service unless the Navy agreed to open the

back gate at Iroquois Point.

The city announced in mid-February that it would discontinue its Route 421 service to Iroquois Point in early March, explaining that the route took too long since the Navy had closed the back gate of the installation.

As a result of that action, residents who rely on city bus transportation would have been left with a nearly two-mile trip to the closest bus stop. Approximately 900 residents reside in the Iroquois Point/Puuloa family housing neighborhoods.

More information will be announced as it becomes available.

DRMO Hawaii completes relocation to Kalaeloa

By Joe Murphy
DRMO International

The relocation of Defense Reutilization Management Office (DRMO) Hawaii to Kalaeloa has taken many years of planning, but at last, the keys have been turned over and the lights turned on.

The relocation effort started in August of 1993, when the City and County of Honolulu bought a parcel of Navy land near Pearl Harbor.

Under the sales agreement, part of the proceeds from the sale were to be used to relocate the tenants to other sites, and one of the tenants

just happened to be DRMO.

The land sold to Honolulu's municipal government had to be vacated by June 2, 1996.

After a great deal of assistance from the Pacific Naval Facility Engineer Command, a new site was found for DRMO Hawaii at Kalaeloa, on land that was formerly part

of Naval Air Station Barbers Point.

The second phase of the relocation is now nearly complete.

During this phase, DRMO received approximately 20 acres of additional land for use, primarily, as open storage area.

This new phase of con-

struction was developed and funded by the Navy, starting in October 1999, at a cost in the neighborhood of \$2.4 million.

On Jan. 29, a final inspection was concluded and keys to the area were turned over to DRMO personnel. The contractor is still completing work on minor projects.

Japanese salvage experts view U.S. Navy survey operations

By Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs

Five Japanese salvage experts and a representative from the Japanese Consulate in Hawaii visited USS Salvor (ARS 52) Monday to see Navy survey operations by the remotely operated vehicle (ROV) Deep Drone.

The team left Pearl Harbor in the morning aboard a Navy boat, which took them to Salvor's location about nine miles south of Waikiki where Ehime Maru sank Feb. 9.

During the day-long visit, the group also saw the side-scan sonar called Shallow Water Intermediate Search System or SWISS aboard Salvor. Deep Drone and SWISS cannot operate simultaneously from the same support vessel.

The group consisted of Hiroshi Sato, chief of the

oceanography office of Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Keiichi Yokota of the office of the secretary of the cabinet; Hiroyasu Monma of the Ocean Science and Technology Center's research department; Hiroyasu Takemoto of the Ministry of Transportation's Laboratory of Shipping Technology; Haruo Kawakami of Fukada Salvage Co. Ltd. and Kouichi Shiota of the consulate's office in Honolulu.

The undersea surveys began Feb. 16 with SWISS, Deep Drone and another Navy ROV Scorpio II, which operated from the Motor Vessel C-Commando.

U.S. Navy and Japanese salvage experts will examine the data collected by the side-scan sonar survey and video from the two ROVs

See SALVAGE, A-3

Children's dental health month



PH2 Chad McNeely photo

Lt. Raynese Fikes (right) and Dental Technician 1st Class Elizabeth Fernandez (left) of Naval Dental Clinic, Pearl Harbor (NDCPH), show the importance of good dental hygiene to Pearl Harbor Elementary students Feb. 21. Students Cassy Valdadez (left), Xyrome Valdez (center) and Jaqueline Albino participated in the dental skit after viewing a short dental hygiene video. NDCPH also put on the skits at six other schools around Pearl Harbor, Feb. 21-28.